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## BOOK REVIEWS.

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**LAW OF WILLS, EXECUTORS, AND ADMINISTRATORS**, by James Schouler, LL.D., fifth edition, in two volumes, pp. clxxiv, 1735: Matthew Bender & Company, Albany, N. Y., 1915.

The fact that the work before me has gone through four editions, and that a fifth is justified, speaks more eloquently than any words could say, that it has supplied a real want, and proved a satisfaction to those who have used it. The scholarship of our author is well known from his numerous books. I still distinctly remember the relaxation I used to feel thirty years ago, as a country school-teacher, reading law on the side, when I refreshed myself from the dense and ponderous pages of Chitty's *Pleading* by reading our author's delightful volume on "Domestic Relations." It was like returning from a foreign language to the mother tongue.

When we contemplate the enormous mass of our adjudicated law on these subjects (the English decisions on which Mr. Williams was able to cover fairly well thirty years ago with three volumes, and to the other of which Mr. Jarman had devoted two large volumes) we are appalled by the constant new growth in fifty different directions in as many separate jurisdictions, each varying in endless details from the original type. We have our separate treatises, our digests, our encyclopedias, designed to index the law of one topic or jurisdiction; but we want a commentary which may not exhaust the decisions on any topic, nor in any jurisdiction, but shall give a general survey, with citation to enough of the old and the new to show the relation of the one to the other, and all reduced to a handy compass; and in these books we have it. No further guaranty of the reliability of the present edition is needed than the author's statement in his preface that he has personally prepared it, and that the whole work has been done with a full sense of his personal responsibility.

J. R. R.

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**NOTES ON THE SCIENCE OF GOVERNMENT AND THE RELATIONS OF THE STATES TO THE UNITED STATES.** By Raleigh C. Minor, Professor of Law, University of Virginia: Anderson Bros, 1913, pp. x, 192.

This is a handbook on the science of government with particular reference to the United States. For the general principles of political science the author has leaned heavily upon Woodrow Wilson's "The State", with occasional references to other authors, mostly American. The author makes no pretension of propounding original theories in regard to the nature of the state but his book is an admirably clear and brief statement of the views with which Mr. Wilson, as professor, scholar, and president, and others have made us familiar.

About half of the book is given up to a consideration of states' rights in the United States. The author's views are reminiscent of the discussions during ante-bellum days in this country, and he is not unnaturally an adherent of the states' rights school. But his views are not extreme